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(54) Charging roll

(57) A charging roll which is held in contact with an outer circumferential surface of an image bearing medium for charging the surface of the image bearing medium by application of a DC voltage and an AC voltage which is superimposed on the DC voltage, the charging roll comprising: a center shaft (12, 22); an electrically conductive base layer (14, 24) formed on an outer circumferential surface of the shaft; an outer structure (16, 18; 26, 28, 30) formed on an outer circumferential surface of the conductive base layer; and the charging roll having Asker C hardness of less than 48 degrees as measured upon application of 1kg load thereto and micro rubber hardness in a range of 65-85 degrees as measured upon application of 33.85g load thereto.

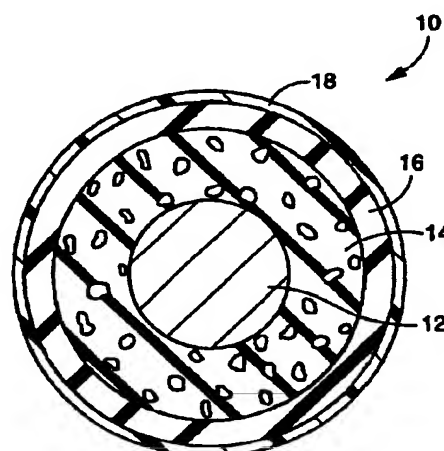


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 10 4598

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 23 May 2000	Examiner Cigoj, P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

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